



# LIBERTY NEWS

Serving New America School-Las Cruces

## October 27, 2015 ISSUE

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## Happy Halloween!

Our Student Body President ...

## Getting to Know ... Kyle Meyer



Kyle Meyer with his skateboard.

By Lucy Moralez

“I’m easy to get along with, and I like to play any sport I have time for,” said Kyle Meyer, “especially skateboarding.” Meyer added, “I also like to listen to heavy metal music, and I’m very particular with things, like my clothing.” When asked to briefly describe himself, Meyer replied, “I am open-minded, very brave, and a risk taker, but don’t get me wrong, I do think things through before I do anything.” He also commented that his actions speak louder than his words. Meyer began thinking about running for student body president when Ms. Fisk mentioned that campaigning for

*continued on p. 6*

## OCTOBER EVENTS

- 26 SPIRIT DAY:** PJs & Slippers Day  
**CANDY GRAMS:** 75 cents each
- 27 SPIRIT DAY:** Zombie Day
- 28 SPIRIT DAY:** Crazy Hair  
**GUEST CANINE:** Honor Society welcomes “Winston” and his friends from the Humane Society @ 3:45 pm in Room 118
- 29 SPIRIT DAY:** Costume Day

*A dynamic voice for students ...*

# Student Council Thrives!

by Alessia Session-Hall

Charles Kuralt said, “Good teachers know how to bring out the best in students.” When I read this, I thought of Mrs. Victoria Fisk. This is her fourth year of teaching at the New America School-Las Cruces. Three years ago she started the Student Council because she felt that it was extremely important for students to have a voice in what goes on in school and outside the school. Student Council is an organization conducted by student leaders that Fisk supervises. The purpose of Student Council is to provide leadership, and to serve the student body, the school, and the community. Student Council is the students’ voice at our school.

Students plan many school and community events. For example, students get involved in events such as feeding the homeless, collecting hygiene products, making crafts with senior citizens, tutoring students, and participating in Charter School Day in Santa Fe. Student Council raises the money necessary to put on a prom for the whole school. Some of the fundraisers have included car washes, and selling food, Valentine’s Day treats, and Halloween treats.

Serving as the Student Council sponsor is very dear to Fisk’s heart. She said, “This year we have 40 students in Student Council. Ten members graduated last year and enrolled in college.” She went on to say, “These alumni continue to help organize and plan Student Council fundraisers. It’s a true testament to how we all care about this school.” Fisk is a true blessing to all the students at this school.

**STUDENT COUNCIL ... is open to all students on campus (day and night students). Student Council meets every Thursday at 4:15 pm and again at 5 pm.**



*Ms. Fisk shown above in front of her classroom and below at a reception where she received an award as “Champion of Education” for her outstanding teaching and community service.*



# Honor Society Food Sales Benefit Community (& Night Students)

By Viridiana Montoya



*Viridiana Montoya (left) and Lucy Moralez (right) came up with the idea of selling burritos to hungry night students as a way to raise money for the Honor Society's service project. Along with other members, they have been making all the burritos themselves. Montoya is the Honor Society's vice president (evening) and Moralez is president (evening).*

**M**embers of the New America School Honor Society have been selling burritos on Mondays and Wednesday from 4-7:30 pm to benefit hungry evening students and staff and also to raise money for the organization's charity. The funds raised will help support the Dona Ana County Humane Society's Dog Training Program. This program train dogs on basic commands so that they will have a better chance of finding forever homes. The Humane Society Dog Training Program is the main project for the Honor Society. The Honor Society will continue holding burritos sales through December.

If you have a request for a special kind of burritos or another food item you would like to purchase, give your suggestion to any member of the Honor Society. The members of the Honor Society would like to thank all students and staff members for their cooperation and support of their fundraising activities.

**Honor Society meets on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 pm in Room 118.** Special guests at this meeting include Winston, the well-mannered Great Dane, and his friends from the Dona Ana County Humane Society (DACHS). Everyone is invited!



# Classroom

By Lucy Moralez



- Arrive to class on time.
- Be ready to learn.
- Be courteous to the instructor and other students.
- Use your indoor voice.
- Remember that you're in school to learn.
- Turn off your cell phone and put it away.
- Remove earbuds and turn off music.
- Don't text or answer your phone during class time.
- Don't walk out of class without permission.

**ETIQUETTE:** good manners, polite behavior, or accepted conduct in a given situation.



## CANDY ... for sale!

Ms. Morinsilva's ENLACE class is selling candy to raise money for a California field trip on April 3-8, 2016. Their goal is to raise \$500 each, which will cover all expenses from travel, lodging, and food. The goal of ENLACE is to open student's eyes to the possibilities around them for future educational opportunities.

## Learning to Give Instructions

# A Sweet Assignment

By Maria Estrada

It doesn't take much to make someone smile. I had an assignment to give presentation in my Communication Skills class. Specifically, I had to give instructions on how to do something. I decided to show the class how to make a candy bouquet. As I described the steps in the process, I demonstrated the action. My presentation showed the class how easy it is to make a candy bouquet.

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*Everyone likes bouquets,  
whether it is for a  
birthday or other  
special occasion.*

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Everyone likes bouquets, whether it is for a birthday or other special occasion. I can guarantee you that if you make a candy bouquet for someone, you will put a smile on your special person's face as I did for Dr. Stathis. The nice part was that she had no clue that the bouquet I was making in class was for her. As you can see from the photograph on the right, I made her day. Look at the BIG smile on her face.



**Kyle Meyer...** continued from p. 1

this year's new student body elections were beginning shortly. He also had some casual conversations with his friends, who encouraged him to run. He had some doubts about running, but he had a feeling that he should pursue this goal. That, along with support of his friends, helped him follow through and win the election.

When asked to reveal something that no one else knows about him, Meyer said, "I like to sing and write lyrics for songs all the time." Meyer has a few guiding mantras he would like to share with people who are going through rough times. His mantra to lift people's spirits is, "I live a hard life, but I keep my head up high, and my heart beating harder."

When Kyle and his family arrived in Las Cruces, they found themselves homeless and literally had only the clothes on their backs. They heard about a place called Camp Hope, which turned out to be their home for some time. He has committed himself to bettering his life and is proud to say he does not use any drugs. He is also happy and proud to say he is in a better place now than he was a few months ago. His family now lives in a two-bedroom home where he feels safe and protected.

When asked what the future holds for him, Meyer smiled and said, "After I graduate from New America School, I want to go to UTI (Universal Technical Institute)." He plans on enrolling in the Motorcycle Technology Training and Engendering Program which will take just over two years of schooling. Meyer is very enthusiastic about learning to breakdown an engine and put it back together again. For right now, however, he's investing all his energy in earning his diploma and helping to make New America School a great place for all students.

Fall 2015

# Community Night

More than 120 people, including students and their families, attended the school's Curriculum and Community Night on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Lots of information, fun, food, and free t-shirts were to be had!





# The Cinderella Project

Ms. Babbs isn't teaching at the New America School this quarter, but she has arranged for 10 evening students to receive the royal treatment on November 11. How lucky are we? Teachers are invited to nominate students (male and female) who have good attendance, a great attitude, and model good school citizenship. For more information, please contact Mrs. Porter.



December graduate ...

## Viridiana Montoya

by Lucy Morales

Viridiana Montoya is very excited to be graduating in December 2015. When asked if she would be continuing her education, she bubbled, "YES! I am already enrolled at Vista College, where I'll be majoring in business and accounting." Montoya said, "I chose Vista College because they have smaller classes and I could get my bachelor's degree in 18 months." She continued, "The classes at Vista College are much like the classes at NAS – they have block scheduling."

When asked what advice would she give to her classmates at NAS, she said,

"I would tell them that getting good grades should be their main priority." In reflecting on her best memory of NAS, Montoya said, "It was my first day of school. I saw Ms. Lisa Morinsilva, who was my

Viridiana is pictured above with her son Alex Montoya (left), her sister Jacquelin Montoya (right), and her daughter Yaretzi (standing).

“Keep your goal in mind.”

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teacher at Las Cruces High School. Seeing her made me feel welcome and comfortable. Looking beyond college, Montoya plans to continue running her business and working harder for her family. Montoya added, "It's hard to go back to school when you're older, but just always keep your goal in mind and keep up the hard work to get through it. Life will be better."